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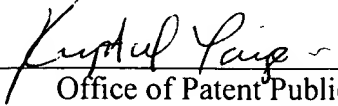
Mail Date: 3-29-05
Application Number: 09/612445

NOTICE TO PAY BALANCE OF ISSUE FEE

The issue fee payment filed on 02/22/05 has been received. Although the fee paid in the Notice of Allowance was paid, new patent fees went into effect on December 8, 2004, after the mailing date of the Notice. See the Sections 801 and 803 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818). As stated in Section 803 of the Act, "the provisions of this title shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act. . . the provisions of section 801 shall apply to all patents, whenever granted, and to all patent applications pending on or filed after the effective date [December 8, 2004]." Because the issue fee was paid on or after December 8, 2004, the new issue fee was due instead of the amount specified in the Notice of Allowance.¹

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.317, applicant is given a time period of **THREE (3) MONTHS** from the mailing date of this notice during which to pay the **BALANCE DUE** indicated below. The balance due is the difference between the issue fee required on the date that the correct issue fee is paid and the amount that was previously paid. This three-month time period may not be extended. If the balance due is not paid before the expiration of the three-month period, the application will become abandoned (if not issued) or the patent will lapse (if issued) at the termination of the three-month period.

App. Type	Column A	Column B	Balance Due. Col. A minus Col. B
	Issue Fee Req. large entity / small entity	Issue Fee PAID	
UTILITY or REISSUE	\$1,400.00/ \$700.00	\$ 685.00	\$ 15.00
DESIGN	\$800.00 / \$400.00	\$	\$
PLANT	\$1,100.00 / \$550.00	\$	\$


Office of Patent Publication

Krystal Paige

Fax: 703-746-4642

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with payment.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this notice and the required additional fee are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____

Registration Number, if any _____ Date: _____

¹ Applicants should check the current fee schedule posted on the USPTO Internet web site at:
<http://www.uspto.gov/main/howtofees.htm> before paying the balance due in order to ensure that the correct issue fee is paid.